

Portsmouth Hospitals **NHS**

NHS Trust

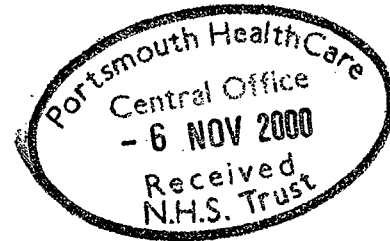
DR N WILKES
CONSULTANT CARDIOLOGIST
ST MARY'S HOSPITAL
MILTON ROAD
PORTSMOUTH
PO3 6AD

TEL: 023 9228600 Ext Code A
 FAX. 023 92866067

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Dictated 23.10.00
 Typed 31.10.00

Mr Max Millett
 Chief Executive
 St James' hospital
 Locksway Road
 Portsmouth
 PO4 8LD



Dear Mr Millett

Re: **NORMA WINDSOR DOB** Code A
Code A

Thank you for your detailed letter. I have carefully reviewed Mrs Windsor's hospital records.

1. It appears certain that septic shock was the primary problem precipitating Mrs Windsor's admission to St Mary's Hospital. Other causes for hypotension had been excluded; subsequent clinical findings and results were also consistent with underlying sepsis. The source of infection is not clear, but coliforms were cultured from urine, suggesting the possibility of underlying urinary tract infection.
2. Mrs Windsor had been non-specifically unwell for about 2 weeks before admission to St Mary's Hospital. It appears that her collapse due to hypotension on the day of admission was sudden and was also consistent with the diagnosis of septic shock. It is possible that urinary tract infection may have contributed to her non-specific symptoms during the 2 weeks prior to admission, but I have not seen any record reporting specific symptoms.
3. Renal failure was also secondary to septic shock.
4. Subsequent poor response to intensive management is consistent with the poor outlook associated with septic shock. Associated problems (ischaemic heart disease, chronic lymphatic leukaemia) may have contributed to her poor response to treatment during her acute illness.
5. The typical nature of septic shock is of sudden onset and is therefore consistent with the history of collapse on the day of transfer from Gosport War Memorial Hospital to St Mary's Hospital.

I would be very happy for this letter to be released as you feel appropriate and all copies of the hospital records associated with her St Mary's Hospital admission to be released following Mr Windsor's permission. Please contact me if you feel I could be of any further help.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely

Code A

CONSULTANT CARDIOLOGIST